

block by block

SPRING 2004

BUILDING STRONGER NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS

Inside this edition:

Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese	3
Agencies Come Together	3
Neighborhood Services Director.....	4
New LV Urban Housing Project.....	4
6th Annual Neighborhood Congress...	5
HUD Grant To Invest	5
Neighborhoods in Action.....	6
Neighborhood Spring Cleaning	7
Residents Can Apply For Waiver.....	7
The Arts Connection Kamp.....	8
Artificial Turf Soccer Fields.....	8
Senior Citizens Advisory Board	8
Bees Swarm Into Valley	9
Public Works Guide Available.....	10
A Special Event	10
Happy 100th Birthday Las Vegas!	10
E-mail SPAM	11
Important Numbers.....	12



Las Vegas City Council

Mayor Oscar B. Goodman
 Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese, Ward 3
 Councilman Larry Brown, Ward 4
 Councilman Lawrence Weekly, Ward 5
 Councilman Michael Mack, Ward 6
 Councilwoman Janet Moncrief, Ward 1
 City Manager Douglas A. Selby
 Deputy City Managers:
 Steve Houchens, Betsy Fretwell
 Department of Neighborhood Services
 Director Orlando Sanchez



Using their YNAPP grant, Students from Lummis Elementary work together to create care packages for newborn babies from low-income families.

Council Allocates Grants To Community Minded Youth Through YNAPP

On February 18, 2004, the city of Las Vegas awarded 30 youth groups from all over the city with grant funding to help them put their ideas into action. Through the **Youth Neighborhood Association Partnership Program (YNAPP)**, the city offers mini-grants of up to \$1,000 to community-minded youth who have a desire to improve and serve their communities. Youth are challenged to take ownership of their neighborhoods and partner with neighborhood associations, to create projects that will improve the quality of life for their fellow residents.

"YNAPP empowers participating youth and develops neighborhood leaders at an early age," said Neighborhood Services Director Orlando Sanchez. "This program gives them an opportunity to become positive forces for change in their community and to use their ideas and energy to help others."

In return for YNAPP funding, grant recipients pledged a community match of over \$182,000 in volunteer labor, and in-kind and cash donations.

Since the program's creation in 1999, YNAPP has funded 102 youth-led neighborhood improvement projects and has leveraged a community match of over \$641,000 in volunteer labor, and in-kind and cash donations.

YNAPP continued page 2

The city council approved funding for the following projects:

1. **Lummis Elementary School ~ The Lullaby Connection Youth** will create care packages of diapers, blankets and clothing for newborn babies from low-income families.
2. **Lied Community School Teen Scene ~ Operation Donation: The Sequel Youth** will restock the SafeNest pantry with personal hygiene items, food, clothing, books and toys.
3. **Teen Leaders of the Future (TLOF) ~ Teens 2 Youth** will create care packages for hospitalized youth suffering from cancer.
4. **Boy Scouts of America Troop 323 ~ West M.S. Beautification Project Youth** will add plants and flowers to a empty plot of land around their school.
5. **West Community Center Youth Council ~ Do You Believe? Youth** will host a day of movies and fun with Santa Claus for youth from the EOB Headstart Center.
6. **National Honor Society of CCHS/West ~ Title 1 ~ Hope Homeless Outreach Program Youth** will decorate rooms in the Center for Independent Living to create a personal space for each young person living at the center.
7. **Gibson Community School Dream Team ~ Senior Helpers Youth** will visit with the seniors of the Archie Grant Park Senior Center and provide them with games and activities.
8. **Stupak Community Center Tomorrow's Leaders ~ Holiday Basket Giveaway Youth** will distribute holiday gift baskets to needy families in their neighborhood.
9. **Doolittle Community Center Youth Council ~ Scavenger Hunt to Benefit the Homeless Youth** will collect and purchase items to create care packages for the homeless.
10. **Girl Scouts Frontier Council Troop 141 ~ Dental Fun for Everyone! Youth** will create dental care packages for low-income adults and youth.
11. **Community College High School/ Student Council ~ "Adopt a Room" at the Center for Independent Living Youth** will create care packages for homeless youth in the Title 1 program.
12. **Garehime Elementary ~ The Friendship Garden of the Great Gardens of Garehime Youth** will plant a community garden in their school.
13. **National Association of Student Councils ~ From Our Hearts To Yours Youth** will make cards and care packages for the troops in Iraq.
14. **Western High School/Photo Club ~ Calendar Youth** will create a calendar highlighting youth achievements. Calendar proceeds will support a celebration for children in a local hospital.
15. **Derfelt Elementary School ~ Read to Succeed 5th graders** will make tapes of themselves reading books to help kindergarten students develop their reading skills.
16. **Andre Agassi Academy ~ Youth for Seniors and Seniors for Youth** will visit low-income seniors in their neighborhood and make care packages for the residents.
17. **Second Baptist Church ~ Reading Over the Rainbow Youth** will provide an after-school reading program for the students of Booker Elementary.
18. **The Meadows School ~ Meadows Mentors Youth** will tutor elementary students in all subjects.
19. **Doolittle & West Community Centers Youth Councils ~ Stay Prepared for School Fair Youth** will create packets of school supplies for youth in their neighborhood.
20. **Cub Scout Pack 750 ~ Help at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission (LVRM) Youth** will volunteer at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission and create care packages for those living in the shelter.
21. **Stupak Community Center Youth Together ~ Kid's Kiset Youth** will collect and purchase clothing for children who are in need in their neighborhood.
22. **Stupak Community Center Gruuv Theory ~ We Can Dance Youth** will host a dance/cheer clinic for youth in their neighborhood who cannot afford to take lessons.
23. **Cimarron-Memorial High School - EDG 2004-2005 Season Youth** will introduce students to engineering by helping them create a working robot.
24. **Doolittle Youth Council ~ Breakfast with Santa Youth** will host a holiday breakfast with Santa Claus for youth from low-income families.
25. **Mirabelli Community Center We R.O.C.K. (Reaching Our Community's Kids) ~ Shade Tree Bunny Wishes Egg Hunt Youth** will host an Easter egg hunt for the children of Shade Tree.
26. **Mirabelli Community Center Dream Teens ~ Summer Santas Youth** will host a holiday party in July for needy families in their neighborhood, providing them with food, clothing and toys.
27. **Mirabelli Community Center Kids To The Rescue ~ Grandparents Day Meet and Greet Hoedown Youth** will host a "hoedown" for the seniors in the Lieburn Senior Center.
28. **Baker Park Youth Council ~ Hispanic Cultures Youth** will teach their neighborhood about various Hispanic cultures during a Cinco de Mayo celebration.
29. **Freedom Enhancement Academy ~ Doctor in the Community Youth** will visit with seniors in their neighborhood, using their training to monitor their health.
30. **The Student Organization of Latinos ~ Career Fair and Educational Conferences Youth** will host a conference to educate youth on the dangers of sex, drugs, alcohol and other youth issues.

The YNAPP application process begins in September of each year. For more information, call the Neighborhood Services Department; Neighborhood Planning & Support Division at (702)229-6269, or e-mail them at neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov.

Agencies Come Together To Address Neighborhood Issues

The city of Las Vegas has developed a new tool to help neighborhood residents eliminate problems and concerns in their neighborhoods.

The new **Integrated Service Teams (IST)** brings together

representatives from all necessary departments or agencies (city, county, Metro or community based) to join efforts with neighborhood residents to address neighborhood issues. By working across organizational boundaries and pooling resources and knowledge, the **IST** approach provides a more efficient and coordinated approach to addressing community issues.

An **IST** is empowered to address building health and safety code violations, substandard housing, abandoned buildings, criminal problems, graffiti and community clean ups, drug and gang activity, homeless encampments, and illegal waste and dumping. By mobilizing community resources, using community strengths and building effective, lasting partnerships, the Integrated Service Teams concept maximizes time, energy and expertise to assist communities effectively.

"Frequently, if code enforcement has a high number of violations in a particular area or Metro has a high number of calls for service, there are other issues with safety and health conditions that need to be addressed as well. By working as a team and sharing information, these teams can address a majority of the neighborhood issues at one time, instead of patching one hole only to watch water pour from all of the others," said Neighborhood Services Director Orlando Sanchez.

A typical **IST** may consist of code enforcement officers, fire prevention officers, building inspectors, business licensing representatives, health inspectors, planning and development representatives, neighborhood planners, community policing officers, public works representatives, crime prevention officers and neighborhood leaders from the neighborhoods. The team members work closely with all property owners and residents, and encourage community participation to improve the neighborhood. This approach allows all team members to become more familiar with particular neighborhoods and form relationships with community leaders.

The goals of the Integrated Service Teams include:

- Involving the community in creative problem solving
- Establishing solutions at the neighborhood level
- Creating safer and more pleasant neighborhoods
- Ensuring effective service delivery
- Providing access to information about the city and its services
- Stabilize and bring pride back into the neighborhood



Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese

Let's Work Together and Keep our Neighborhoods Clean, Safe and Graffiti Free



Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese

As the weather is warming up and spring moves into Las Vegas, many of us start to plan a little spring cleaning and organizing around our homes. Litter, overgrown weeds, graffiti and abandoned vehicles are just some of the things that take away from the value of our homes that we work so hard to maintain. This is an excellent time to think about working with your friends and neighbors to give your entire neighborhood a good spring cleaning.

To demonstrate my commitment to keeping our neighborhood clean, I hosted my first 2004 Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting on Monday, April 26, 2004, and I hope you all were able to attend. If not, we are hosting our second Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting on Monday, May 24, 2004, 6:00 p.m., at the East Las Vegas Senior Community Center located at 250 North Eastern Ave., located at the corner of Eastern Ave. and Stewart Ave. This year's theme is "Let's Work Together and Keep our Neighborhoods Clean, Safe and Graffiti Free." I would also like to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in joining us in our fight to schedule a neighborhood walk-along tour of your neighborhood with me and my staff. To coordinate a tour contact Loretta Arrington at (702) 229-6405 or send an e-mail to: larrington@lasvegasnevada.gov.

Experience has shown us that neighborhood clean ups are most effective when neighborhood residents initiate the clean up; the residents actively participate in the clean up; and the neighborhood monitors themselves in order to keep the area clean. Ultimately, it is up to neighborhood residents to ensure their neighborhoods remain safe and clean. When unwanted items start to accumulate on vacant lots, in alleys, or on properties in your area, call the Neighborhood Response's 24-hour complaint line at (702) 229-6615. The city's code enforcement officers will respond to all complaints, and help residents take a proactive role in keeping their neighborhoods clean.

Orlando Sanchez

Appointed Neighborhood Services Director

The Las Vegas City Council appointed Orlando Sanchez to the position of Director of Neighborhood Services on February 4, 2004. He had been acting in that capacity since early December.

Orlando has been with the City of Las Vegas since 1988. He began his city career in 1988 as a management analyst working for the Department of Economic and Urban Development and subsequently worked in the City Manager's Office, City Council Office, Neighborhood Services and Field Operations. It is very fitting that he return to Neighborhood Services, as the years he spent as Neighborhood Response Manager were personally very satisfying.

"I have always believed that the work of Neighborhood Services has such a positive impact on the community. I am very fortunate to be in a position to administer programs that benefit neighborhoods as well as individuals in this community. I can think of no better job that allows me the opportunity to work with the neighborhoods, non profit agencies, the private market, HUD and other governmental agencies to leverage resources to make visible contributions to our neighborhoods."

Born and raised in New Mexico, Orlando attended a small high school in the outskirts of Albuquerque named Belen High School. He completed college at New Mexico State University majoring in Economics. He is married to Nina and they have one daughter, age 22 months, who is the apple of his eye.

Welcome Orlando. We know the department will continue to provide outstanding service to the citizens of Las Vegas under your leadership.



New Las Vegas Urban Housing Project

To Break Ground By January

The availability of housing downtown is getting a boost with the L'Octaine Urban Apartment Project LLC. The project broke ground in January 2004 on its new 51-unit complex featuring studios, lofts, and retail on the lower level. The apartments will be located at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Gass Avenue, offering a unique mix of affordable and market-rate housing.



The L'Octaine Urban Apartment Project will provide 51-units, studios and lofts, with retail shopping on the lower level.

"This project has been a long time coming. It has taken patience and hard work to get where we are today. L'Octaine will offer what young professionals are hungry for an environment where they can work and live," said Mayor Oscar B. Goodman.

The Las Vegas City Council approved a resolution for the San Diego based Tom Hom Group to move forward on the project in August 1999. The city of Las Vegas has donated the land for the project, while the state of Nevada just announced that is scheduled to sell \$4.12 million in bonds. In addition, the city of Las Vegas will loan \$1.65 million in federal funds and an additional \$850,000 in city redevelopment funds.

"This is another successful partnership between the city of Las Vegas and a private developer who shares our vision for a vibrant downtown," said Councilwoman Janet Moncrief, who represents Ward 1. "As we continue to offer more opportunities for people who want to live downtown this area will prosper."

The new apartment complex will create more housing in an area where it is greatly needed. The city of Las Vegas recently opened Campaigne Place and City Centre Apartments. The new L'Octaine project will enhance the City Council's vision of creating a livable downtown atmosphere.

Join Your Neighbors At The 6th Annual Neighborhood Congress

Looking for a way to enhance your neighborhood? The Neighborhood Congress is a one-day workshop bringing together residents, neighborhood groups and government agencies to learn how to preserve and enhance their neighborhoods.

This event, a partnership between the state of Nevada-Family Resource Centers, Clark County, and the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Henderson, highlights several workshops designed to assist neighborhood residents in taking an active role in the improvement of their community. Through a series of dynamic and interactive workshops, this conference will offer participants concrete tools and techniques to take back to their community and start getting their neighbors energized, organized and active.

This year's Neighborhood Congress is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2004 at the East Las Vegas Community Senior Center, located at 250 N. Eastern



Ave. from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. The Congress will feature workshops on:

- Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Beautification
- Neighborhood Services and Programs
- Working with Homeowner's Associations
- Community and Parent Involvement in Education
- Creating Strong Neighborhood Organizations
- Residents Role in Community Planning & Zoning

Following the Congress workshops, participants are invited to attend a luncheon where the 2004 Neighborhood Impact Awards winners will be honored. Participants are also invited to visit the information booths during the luncheon. These booths will feature representatives from many city and county departments; and community agencies to answer questions and provide additional information on how their programs and services can be utilized to achieve your neighborhood goals.

Reserve your space now! To register, or for more information please call (702) 455-3777 or visit: http://www.co.clark.nv.us/parks/NeighborhoodServices/Neighborhood_Congress.htm.

HUD Grant To Invest In People And Places In Need

The city of Las Vegas will receive more than \$6.1 million to stimulate its local economy and produce more affordable housing. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Assistant Secretary Roy A. Bernardi, Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese made the announcement during a tour of the East Las Vegas Community Center which was built and operated with HUD funding. The East Las Vegas Community Senior Center, located in Councilman Reese's ward, was built with more than \$8 million in CDBG funding.

The funding is provided through HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. CDBG enables state and local governments to target their own economic development priorities. The rehabilitation of

affordable housing has traditionally been the largest single use of the grants although CDBG is also an important catalyst for job growth and business opportunities for lower income families and neighborhoods. CDBG funds are distributed by formula around the country based on criteria including population, income levels, poverty rates and age of housing stock.

The funding will be used for new housing and development opportunities in Las Vegas.



HUD Assistant Secretary Roy A. Bernardi presents Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese with a check for \$6.1 million. The money will provide community improvements and more affordable housing units.

NEIGHBORHOODS IN ACTION



Councilman Michael Mack giving away a turkey dinner to a Boys & Girls Club family in need. Councilman Mack facilitated this event by working with Vons, Stations Casinos and UNLV volunteers. Vons donated the turkeys, Station Casinos donated the pies and the UNLV volunteers put together the baskets to make a complete turkey dinner for 120 needy families during the holidays.



Council members presented certificates of achievement to the 2004 Martin Luther King Oratorical competition winners. Miss Nevada, also received a certificate of achievement. Who competed in the Miss USA pageant.



Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and Councilman Lawrence Weekly celebrate the grand re-opening of Binion's Horseshoe.



Councilman Lawrence Weekly hosts the "Breakfast With the Pastors," bringing together members of the Ward 5 religious community to discuss community issues.



Council members presented certificates of achievement and a trophy to Palo Verde High School Division 4A State Basketball Champions.



Residents from the Historic West Las Vegas neighborhood listen to a presentation from Councilman Lawrence Weekly on the Integrated Services Team (IST), and their effort to work with residents to improve the West Las Vegas community.



Councilwoman Janet Moncrief addresses neighborhood residents during a Ward 1 Townhall Meeting.

Give Your Neighborhood A Spring Cleaning

Tired of all of the trash and clutter in and around your neighborhood? Then organize a neighborhood cleanup with the Neighborhood Services Neighborhood Response Division.

Neighborhood cleanups are an effective way to dispose of unwanted items, trash and debris from your neighborhood at no cost to you. When you schedule a clean up, Neighborhood Response will send out notices to all residents in your neighborhood boundaries notifying them of the dates and times for the cleanup. On the Saturday of your neighborhood's choice, Neighborhood Response will pick up all unwanted items that residents within the boundaries of your neighborhood have left near the curb for disposal. City staff cannot pick up combustible items such as chemicals or paint, and regular trash cans will not be picked up. Staff will provide assistance to elderly and disabled residents.



Neighborhood residents work with the city's Rapid Response team to clear out unwanted items from a neighbor's yard.



Available dates for neighborhood cleanups are booking fast. Call (702) 229-6615 today to schedule a clean up in your neighborhood.

Residents Can Apply For Waiver Of Recent Sewer Fee Increases

The city has a new program to help qualifying residents who are having trouble paying their sewer bills. On November 19, 2003, the Las Vegas City Council approved an ordinance increasing sewer service fees. To assist those elderly residents and others on fixed incomes who may experience a hardship as a result of the increases, the council included a provision for owner-occupants of single-family dwellings to apply for a waiver of the rate increase by means of a hardship determination.



Customers within certain income levels are eligible and may apply to the city of Las Vegas for a waiver of the sewer service fee increase. To qualify, residents' annual household income must be \$19,800 or less for individuals, or \$22,600 or less for households of two or more people. These income levels are consistent with the current low-income levels established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Residents who believe they qualify for this waiver may pick up an application at the Las Vegas City Hall, Department of Finance and Business Services, Sixth Floor, located at 400 Stewart Avenue. Residents can also have a form mailed to them by calling the city's Sanitation Billing Technician staff at (702) 229-6281. Along with submitting a completed application, residents will be required to include a copy of their current year income tax return to substantiate the income criteria.

Any waiver that is granted is for a one-year period and must be renewed annually by submitting a new application and applicable income tax return.

Residents must apply for the waiver prior to receiving their current year's bill at the new rate. For customers who have already been billed for February, March, April and May, the city will honor those accounts retroactively if they are deemed eligible for the waiver. Rates for the 2004 fees are increasing to \$174.88 from \$138.80.

Registration Opens April 10 For The Arts Connection Kamp (TACK)

It's not too soon to think about summer camp for your 7 to 12 year old children. Registration is now open for TACK, the annual Arts Connection Kamp offered by the Cultural Affairs Division of the city of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services. The eight-week-long camp is held Monday through Friday, June 7 through July 30, at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 821 Las Vegas Boulevard North. Call (702) 229-6211 for information and a free brochure.

Three options are available for children interested in the arts. The full-day camp, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., offers a full morning of theatre classes, taught by staff from the award-winning Rainbow Company Youth Theatre, and a variety of dance and visual arts classes in the afternoon. Participants will also attend the three performances of the Children's Summer Concert Series in July. Early drop-off and late pick-up are available. Parents must provide sack lunches and snacks.

Children may also enroll in either the morning, 9 a.m. to noon, or afternoon session, 1 to 4 p.m.

Fees are \$550 for the full day or \$300 for half day. Multiple family discounts and flexible payment plans are available. Enrollment is limited. Save time and register online at www.clvbeyondtheneon.com or by phone at (702) 229-5445 with a Visa, MasterCard or Discover card.

Ed Fountain Park Makeover Introduces Water-Saving Artificial Turf Soccer Fields

Ed Fountain Park, located on Decatur Boulevard near Vegas Drive, has undergone a major makeover by the city of Las Vegas.

Built in 1970, the 18-acre park is in the midst of a \$6.1 million renovation. The newly remodeled park features five new, lighted soccer fields. Two of the fields will use Pro Green Xtreme water-saving artificial turf.

According to the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the installation of artificial turf on two soccer fields will save an estimated 21.8 million gallons of water each year.

"It is important for the city of Las Vegas to seek opportunities to incorporate water efficient measures into our capital improvement projects," said Ward 5 Councilman Lawrence Weekly. "These are the city's first artificial turf soccer fields, and park features such as these may become more common in Las Vegas neighborhoods in the future."

Other park improvements include basketball courts, a play area for children, two sets of restrooms, a concession area, additional parking, landscaping and other amenities.



Senior Citizens Advisory Board Presents Pre-Retirement Seminar

Working seniors who are close to retirement are invited to a pre-retirement seminar, sponsored by the Senior Citizens Advisory Board and the city of Las Vegas. The seminar will take place from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, at the West Charleston Public Library Auditorium, located at 6301 W. Charleston Boulevard.

This seminar will help take the confusion out of Social Security and Medicare. Information provided will include how to apply for Social Security, how to get

benefits if you are still working at age 65, and the type of insurance needed if a spouse continues to work while the other retires. Various agencies serving the senior community will be available to answer questions after the presentation.

Admission to the event is free. For more information, contact Bob Goldstein at (702) 870-1587.



Bees Swarm

Into Valley

It's that time of year again, bee swarming season. And already with the warm temperatures in the valley, there have been a number of reports of bee swarms. Here is some important information about the bees.

When bees move from one location to another, they usually fly in a formation known as a "swarm." Unlike what has been seen in movies, swarms of bees do not seek out and attack victims. Although they appear



awesome, the bees actually want to be left alone to go about their way. Swarms usually fly from sunrise to approximately 9 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to sundown. When it gets too warm for them to fly, they will find

a branch, wire, fence or even the side of a building to hang onto and rest. Made up of hundreds of bees, they surround the Queen in search of a new home (a place to build a hive). If left alone, they will not sting. If they are flying toward you and you are outside, just move to the side and let them pass. Rarely does a person get stung if a swarm comes around them. Do not bother a swarm by throwing things or shooting water at them. This only confuses them and agitates them. If left alone, swarms will usually move on late in the afternoon or early the next morning. They may stay a little longer on days that are very windy or if there is rain. In most cases, they just want to rest and continue their journey.

Regardless of the type of bee, whether European (the type of bee that has been in the Americas for hundreds of years) or the new Africanized Honey Bee (sometimes referred to as "killer bees"), bees will protect their home and family. If the bees build a hive on your property, a professional bee removal specialist should remove it as soon as possible. A list of them can be found in the Yellow Pages under "Bee Removal Service." It should never be attempted by a person who has not had the training or protective equipment to

remove bees. *The city of Las Vegas or Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Department does not exterminate bees.* Several people in years past required hospitalization because they attempted to remove the bees using commercial brand pest chemicals. These chemicals usually does not kill them, but does agitate the bees to the point to where they will send out hundreds of bees to make you go away.

If you have an encounter with bees, here are some safety tips:

- Run away from the bees as fast as you can. They are slow flyers and will break off their pursuit after a short distance.
- Seek shelter in a building or vehicle if bees are chasing you.
- If you are stung by a bee and begin to feel sick or have difficulty breathing, call 9-1-1 immediately and ask for immediate medical aid. You may be experiencing an allergic reaction to the sting.
- Sometimes bees are agitated by humming noises such as lawnmowers, weed eaters and other appliances. If a hive is nearby, the vibrations of these devices may scare the bees into thinking you are trying to harm them and they may sting.
- If it appears that bees are attacking someone, you should call 9-1-1.

In the city of Las Vegas, a white barricade taped with red lettering "Caution Bees" both in English and Spanish is used by city employees and agencies to alert citizens to the presence of bees in a specified area. If you see this tape being displayed somewhere, you should avoid the area.

More information about the bees can be found on the website www.lasvegasfire.org under Safety Tips or by calling (702) 229-2000.

Swarming season is usually February through April when it starts to get warm and again in the fall as they head for warmer places for the winter. The bees have not been considered a problem here in southern Nevada over the past few years, but they can cause property damage or a threat of stinging if they are not handled in a prompt and correct manner.

New City of Las Vegas

Public Works

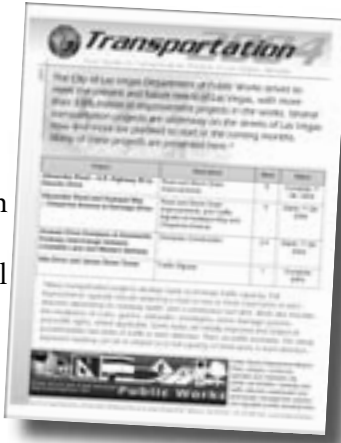
Guide Available

Stay ahead of transportation projects with the help of a new guide created by the city of Las Vegas Department of Public Works.

The Transportation 2004 publication provides an overview of many road and flood control improvement projects that are underway now, along with information on other major projects in Las Vegas city limits that will start in 2004.

Project descriptions and construction timelines are included, and locations for new traffic signals are also identified.

Free copies of the guide are available by contacting the city of Las Vegas Public Works Department at 229-6276.



May Events Celebrate

The Arts In Downtown Las Vegas

Enjoy a wide variety of arts in downtown Las Vegas during May, including a May 7 First Friday May Fun Fest; May 9 Mother's Day big band concert; May 15 day of adventure, treasure hunt, Rainbow Company theatre performance and Las Vegas All Star High School Jazz Band concert in the Cultural Corridor; poetry and jazz performances May 13 and 27 in the Lewis Avenue corridor, performances at Reed Whipple Cultural Center and the drive-through aerial art gallery on Las Vegas Boulevard north of Charleston Boulevard. Admission is free to all of these events, which are presented by the Cultural Affairs Division of the city of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services.

"We want people to come downtown to enjoy the arts, see the redevelopment and have a good time," said Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman. "First Fridays have been an excellent avenue to showcase the burgeoning arts community, and the first Friday in May will be even better ~ art with a block party."

Some of the May arts programs are partially funded by a grant from the Nevada Arts Council. For a complete schedule of activities in the Arts District during the month of May, call (702) 229-6792.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY LAS VEGAS!

It's Your Birthday, Too! Let's Celebrate!

On May 15, 2005, Las Vegas will celebrate its 100th Birthday! This historic occasion has something to offer everyone. The Centennial Celebration Committee has promised to commemorate our 100th Birthday as only Las Vegas can by hosting a party that is bigger and brighter than the neon lights on the Las Vegas Strip! It will also be a great time for residents and tourists to explore the different aspects of our City, participate in spectacular events and celebrate the first city of the 21st Century.

If you are a Las Vegas resident with a desire to be a part of the biggest celebration ever, then you need to get involved. We are working to make the 100th birthday celebration one to remember through many celebratory events and commemorative items. Let's look at ways you can get involved.

Build Your Own

It's your birthday, too! Build your own Centennial

special event, family reunion or neighborhood party to celebrate Las Vegas' Centennial. Let us know what you're doing and we'll place your event on the Master Calendar. Contact the Centennial Office for calendar criteria and deadlines.

Volunteer Your Time

We will need volunteers for many of the special events and projects taking place throughout the Centennial year. You may be an individual interested in working on several events, or you may belong to a civic organization or company with a bank of employee volunteers who dedicate their spare time to worthy projects. Whichever describes you, we want to engage your time and talents!

For more information on the Centennial Celebration upcoming events, please contact the Centennial office at (702) 229-2005 or visit www.lasvegas2005.org.

Tips for Fighting *E-mail SPAM*

What is SPAM?

SPAM is “officially” known as Unsolicited Commercial E-mail (UCE). In practice, the word “spam” is used to describe any type of unsolicited email.

Do Spammers Really Sell Anything?

Yes, they sell e-mail addresses to other spammers. While some recipients undoubtedly make purchases based upon email advertising, the real money is made in selling legitimate e-mail addresses to other mass marketers.

How Do Spammers Obtain My E-mail Address?

Several different sources are used. Most web sites that ask for your e-mail address will sell your address to other mass mailers. Websites that offer services such as free email, greeting cards, inspirational thoughts, jokes, etc., are not set up for your benefit. Think of them as email address collection centers. Chain letters, jokes and similar messages that encourage you to forward the message to your friends can also provide a rich source of e-mail addresses to spammers.

I Clicked “Unsubscribe” But I Still Get Spam. Why?

Unsubscribe links usually have the opposite effect. When you click on the “Remove” or “Unsubscribe” link, you are actually doing the spammer a big favor and verifying that their mass mailing reached a valid e-mail user. They can (and often do) sell this information. The result is usually more spam in your Inbox!

A Friend Claims I Sent Her Spam. How Could That Happen?

Spammers have many ways to disguise the actual sender. One technique uses a list of addresses as both recipients and senders. The message appears to come from someone you consider a “legitimate” sender. In the same way, your friend might receive spam that appears to have originated from your e-mail account. This trick is designed to get you to open the message, and thus verify your e-mail address.

Why Can't IT Simply Block All Spam?

There are several obstacles to blocking spam. The biggest problem is that one person's spam is another person's valuable e-mail. In other words, each user's definition of spam is subjective. Spammers are very clever in their efforts to defeat automated content-checking software. As a result, the human recipient is the only one who can safely determine which e-mail messages are valid, and which ones are spam.

How Can I Fight Back?

Here are some guidelines to safeguard your email address.

- ◆ Do not open or preview messages from unknown senders with vague subjects or non-business subjects. This will also help protect you from e-mail viruses.
- ◆ Guard your e-mail address like you would your telephone number. Once your address is on spammer's mailing lists, they will feel free to contact you and perhaps sell your address. By then, it's too late. If you must sign up to a website using an e-mail address, consider using a free e-mail provider such as Hotmail or Yahoo. Once you start receiving excessive spam on this account, you can simply close it and start another.
- ◆ Always delete unknown e-mail attachments without opening them. They can contain destructive viruses.
- ◆ Be cautious in giving out your e-mail address. It is easy to end up on a “Junk E-mail” list.
- ◆ Be careful not to inadvertently sign up for something that you do not wish to receive.
- ◆ Talk to your Internet Service Provider (ISP) about what services they can provide. Internet Filters can be used to help you only view the type of content that you wish to see.

Other Internet Safety Tips

- ◆ Keep your passwords private! Your online service will never ask for them, so neither should anyone else.
- ◆ Use only your log-in name and/or e-mail address when chatting or sending e-mail. Never give out personal information like your name, address or phone number.
- ◆ Don't share photos of yourself, your family or your home with people you meet online.
- ◆ If a person writes something that is mean or makes you feel uncomfortable, don't respond. Report it to your online service provider.
- ◆ Remember that nothing you write on the Web is completely private -- including e-mail. So be careful and think about what you type and who you tell.
- ◆ Credit card usage over the Internet is becoming more secure day by day. When using your card on a Website however, make sure that the site is trustworthy and secure. If in doubt, ask the administrator of the site which e-trust programs they belong to or what security measures they have in place. Do not send credit card information via “E-mail” as this method of communication is usually not secure.
- ◆ All things are not free on the Internet. If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Important Phone Numbers

Mayor's Office.....	229-6241
City Council Office.....	229-6405
City Manager's Office.....	229-6501
City Attorney.....	229-6201
City Clerk.....	229-6311
Sheriff's Office.....	229-3394
METRO (non-emergency).....	795-3111
Emergency.....	911
Fire Department.....	383-2888
Permits.....	229-6251
Planning & Development.....	229-6301
Leisure Services.....	229-6297
Neighborhood Services Department.....	229-2330
Neighborhood Response.....	229-6615
Citizen Hotline (graffiti, dangerous abatement, etc).....	229-6615
Neighborhood Planning & Support.....	229-6269
East Las Vegas Community/Senior Center ~ satellite office 250 N. Eastern Ave.....	229-1522
Neighborhood Development.....	229-2555
EVOLVE Center.....	638-6371

Block by Block Needs Your Input!

Block by block is a quarterly newsletter published by the city of Las Vegas Neighborhood Services Department. It is designed as a tool to share information about neighborhood issues, services, programs, and resources. All neighborhood associations registered with the city's Neighborhood Partnership Program will receive this newsletter once a quarter. If you are aware of an organization interested in registering with this program, please contact the Neighborhood Planning and Support Division at (702) 229-6269 or email us at neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov.

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